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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

DDI #2127-82
15 March 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, National Intelligence Council

FROM : Major General Edward B. Atkeson, USA
National Intelligence Officer for General Purpose Forces

SUBJECT : Soviet Global Strategy [redacted] 25X1

1. In accordance with our conversation last week, I attach a copy of the last draft of the Soviet Global Strategy paper, the comments of the Senior Review Panel, and a strategy-related article in The New York Times dated March 14, 1982. [redacted] 25X1

2. While I do not agree with the Panel in all respects (e.g.: the members attach more importance to the Persian Gulf than I would--or than the paper does), I think many of the points are well taken and should be incorporated. With that I think we will have gone about as far as we usefully can on the matter using purely static analysis of Soviet options and opportunities. [redacted] 25X1

3. The New York Times ran an interesting article ("Bigger Bucks for Security But How Much and For What?") in which Mr. Iklé gave his view of the Soviet threat. Besides the heavy Soviet investment in arms, he says he perceives that the Soviets have "leapfrogged over lines of containment", and in event of major conflict would be in a "much better strategic position." It is evident that this is the concern that prompted his question in the beginning. [redacted] 25X1

4. I recommend we finalize the paper as an attachment to a memorandum back to Mr. Ikle with a suggestion that he consider referring the question to the Joint Wargaming Agency in JCS. I would expect that if there are additional insights to be gained from this exercise they are more likely to surface through an examination of dynamic Blue-on-Red interplay than by further prose prepared from solely a threat point of view. Of course, we would want to offer support in the event Mr. Iklé accepts the wargame suggestion, and perhaps we would even want to play a part. Your views? [redacted] 25X1

Ted
Edward B. Atkeson

Attachments:

1. Subject Paper (DRAFT), [redacted] 25X1
2. SRP Comments, 11/24/81 [redacted] 25X1
3. NYT Article, 3/14/82 [redacted] 25X1

TOP SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR: C/NIC

FROM : NIO/GPF

SUBJECT : Soviet Global Strategy

25X1

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